February 22, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony Legislative Office Building Room 2702 Hartford CT 06106-1591

. To whom it may concern,

My name is Daniel Lambert. I am a combat vet and I have been attending the fatherhood support group in Norwich called "24/7 Dad" since June 28, 2010. I graduated from the class on October 04, 2010. Since then I have attended ritually, missing maybe a total of 8 classes to this date. This program has not only been my savior but an outlet for whatever questions or problems I could possibly need help with and I have never been turned away. I have attended approximately 92 groups to this date. Whenever I meet new dads in my travels I always refer them to the group because it is an excellent resource for fathers. The staff with Madonna Place is full of knowledge that they are so willing to share with whoever may need the help. I have also completed the "Circle of Security" classes that are offered. With that all being said, this is by far one of the greatest programs that I have ever found other then the Vet Centers in our state. I honestly feel that if Fatherhood Programs were to lose their funding that it would be a critical blow to fathers thru out our state and I have yet to find any other father based programs anywhere. So please find it in our state's best interest to keep this stellar organization up and running.

Thank You for your time and reflection,

Daniel Lambert